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(54) Title: **NANOCLAY-CONTAINING COMPOSITES AND METHODS OF MAKING THEM**

(57) Abstract: A composite of nanoclay and thermoplastic matrix polymer is disclosed, optionally containing a polyolefin elastomer and also optionally containing a dispersion agent for the nanoclay. The nanocomposite is prepared for use with thermoplastic polyolefins (TPO's). The polyolefin elastomer, preferably an ethylene-octene copolymer, is added into a mixing extruder downstream of the other ingredients. The nanoconcentrate contributes increased stiffness and toughness to a TPO, which can be used form molded articles such as automotive parts.



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